

White-Fringed Pest Reported In State

The white-fringed beetle-enemy of beans, cotton, corn, peanuts, potatoes and soybeans—has been found in seven counties of North Carolina, C. H. Brannon, head of the Entomology Division of the State Department of Agriculture, has announced.

The beetle was first discovered in the United States in Florida in 1936. "The insect attacks several hundred plants and is an extremely serious addition to the many insect pests now in the State," Brannon said.

out Brannon, is now under Federal and State quarantines and there are around 40 Federal inspectors in the State engaged in scouting, quarantine, enforcement and control activities.

The adult white-fringed beetle is about one-half inch in length. It is dull gray or brownish gray in color, with a lighter band around the side. Only females are known and though the insect has rudimentary wings, it is unable to fly.

Anyone finding an insect similar to this description first should kill the specimen by dropping it in alcohol and then should put it in a small box and mail it to the division of Entomology, State Department of Agriculture, Raleigh.

Gets Army Promotion

Completing a special course in Fort Knox, Ky., Officer Candidate School, James L. Harris was commissioned a lieutenant in the U. S. Army Tank Corps last Saturday. He is expected home for a short furlough about the middle of August.

'MEMPHIS BELLE' GETS ROYAL WELCOME HOME



BACK WITH HER ORIGINAL CREW INTACT after flying 20,000 miles on 25 bombing missions over Europe, the "Memphis Belle" is welcomed in Washington. Gen. Henry H. Arnold (left) and Assistant Secretary of War Robert Patterson (foreground) greet the men. They are (l. to r.): Sgt. C. A. Nastal, Detroit; Sgt. C. E. Winchell, Oak Park, Ill.; Sgt. John Quilan, Yonkers, N. Y.; Sgt. H. P. Loch, Green Bay, Wis., holding Mascot "Stuka", and Capt. C. B. Leighton, E. Lansing, Mich. (International Soundphoto)

Chemistry Scores Another Triumph

Paint-brush bristles have for generations come from hogs, usually Chinese hogs, and the Chinese had developed a lucrative industry in gathering, baling and shipping the bristles to world markets. Before the war, we were importing 6,000,000 pounds annually. This was suddenly cut to almost nothing, just at a time when, with war construction booming, we needed more paint brushes. But six years ago, researchers had begun work on synthetic bristles and their solution to the problem came almost coincidentally with the shutting off of imports. The new man-made bristles are made from cellulose acetate applied as a coating over rayon cord. They do a good job because cellulose acetate is highly flexible, and highly resistant to oils.

Linters

One bale of cotton linters will make 20,000 rounds of machine gun ammunition. Civilian rayons are also made from linters and they serve as the basic part in the production of plastics.

MILK

In the face of increasing demands for milk and milk products, the estimated production during April was 60,000,000 pounds, or 1 per cent smaller than for the same period last year.

Grow More Alfalfa For Excellent Hay

Alfalfa produces exceptionally high quality hay and larger total acre yields than other legumes, making it an excellent crop for planting to offset the existing feed shortage, says Dr. E. R. Collins, in charge of agronomy extension at State College.

Alfalfa can be grown on moderately heavy, well-drained, and fertile upland soils throughout the state. It is not suited to bottom soils because it gets "wet feet" when the water table is high. It must be grown on good land because it is not a "poor land" crop.

Collins advises that now is the time to select the land for the sowing of the crop in September. Disk it with a "bus hand bog" harrow, leaving as much of the vegetation on the surface as possible, and prepare to disk once or twice more before seeding.

A sample of the soil should be taken now and sent to the Soil Testing Laboratory at Raleigh for a recommendation on how much lime is needed for the crop. It should be applied immediately since limestone does not quickly neutralize soil acids.

An application of 5 to 10 tons of stable manure per acre is recommended at planting and each year thereafter. Also apply 700 pounds of a 2-12-6 fertilizer and 35 pounds of granulated borax per acre. Larger amounts of borax may damage the crop.

Collins recommends the planting of Kansas common, Utah common, or Oklahoma common seed, at the rate of 20 to 25 pounds per acre, with an alfalfa or clover drill, a grain drill, a cyclone seeder, or by hand. The rate of seeding should be increased, when the crop is sown by hand.

For complete information on seeding alfalfa locally, see your county agent.

Jerseys

Negro farmers in Rockingham County have purchased 40 Jersey heifers, reports R. L. Hannon, Negro farm agent. The purchases were financed by the Danville Savings & Trust Company (Negro bank).

Uncle Sam Needs Extra Pulpwood

Uncle Sam is asking farm woodland owners to spend some of their spare time in cutting pulpwood because more tons of wood go into the war machine than tons of steel, says R. W. Graeber, extension forester at N. C. State College.

Recently 125 farmers and timbermen met in Rutherford County with the county agents and soil conservationists from Polk, Cleveland, Burke and Gaston Counties. Paper companies representatives were also present.

The meeting brought out that one paper company is making 125,000 boxes a day for use in exporting food and war supplies for the army. Ninety-two percent of the paper manufactured by this plant goes into the war effort and it has a capacity of 2,200 cords a day.

This company is getting only 1,600 cords of wood at the present time and the farmers pledged to cut extra pulpwood just as soon as the crops are laid by and before the fall harvest season begins.

The conference showed that the army and navy used wood products in about 800 different ways and that the demand is so great for pulpwood and other timber that unless growers make every effort to supply the mills with extra timber this year, a severe shortage of wood products will prevail.

TOPPING TOBACCO

Experts say that topping tobacco is something of an art. The grower must have experience in observing the growth of tobacco, knowledge of the amount of fertilizer used, and how it will react to different seasonal conditions on different soil types in order to know how to top tobacco. They say that topping should begin just as soon as the seed pods begin to show and that the crop develops best if not allowed to blossom and the stalk to become hard. It is an excellent idea to top higher than necessary, when in doubt, and then retop later.

MARGARINE

Because of the wartime demand for cottonseed oil, the War Food Administration has requested the margarine industry to use corn oil as well as soybean oil in the manufacture of its products.

Triple A To Furnish Austrian Winter Pea Seed This Season

H. A. Patten, executive assistant of the AAA, says that farmers can obtain crimson clover and Austrian winter peas through their AAA committee in lieu of cash payments. In the case of crimson clover, growers may obtain any part of their 1943 allowance which they have not already used, and in addition, may obtain an amount equal to their 1943 allowance which will be charged against their 1944 allowance. According to Patten, "Legumes are a valuable asset in meeting the food and fiber needs since supplies of chemical nitrogen for agricultural purposes are so limited. The points out that the land for maximum wartime food production, it is necessary to keep every tilled acre covered in the winter."

Agricultural Products

The BAE reports that consumer income and the domestic demand for agricultural products are expected to rise further during the second half of 1943.

Containers

Wooden containers for shipping fresh fruits and vegetables are being standardized to conserve lumber, metals and manpower. The amount of wooden containers available will not be reduced.

Chickens

Some has figured that these chickens will require about 20 billion tons of extra feed, if they are made to weigh 3 pounds each.

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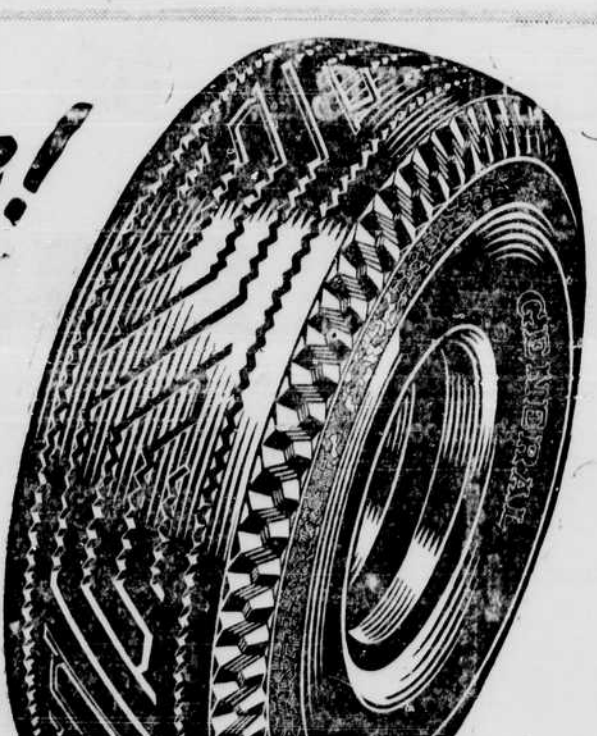
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